

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 11618 172156Z
ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 HA-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00
INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 PM-05 SP-02 /048 W
-----062837 172158Z /70
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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1429
ALL USCONS MEXICO POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UR, MX, SHUM
SUBJECT: GOM PUBLIC REACTION TO SOVIET TRIALS

REF: STATE 178559

FOR INR

1. ALTHOUGH WELL COVERED AND ROUNDLY DENOUNCED IN THE MEXICAN PRIVATE PRESS, THE RECENT TRIALS AND SENTENCING OF THE SOVIET DISSIDENTS HAS NOT BROUGHT FORTH AN OFFICIAL REACTION FROM THE GOM.

2. WHILE THE GOM HAS PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED ITS CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HAS SHOWN ITS SUPPORT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES IN INTERNATIONAL FORA - WITNESS ITS ACTIONS IN THE RECENT OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING, IT HAS CONFINED MOST OF ITS COMMENT ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO ACTIONS AND EVENTS IN THIS HEMISPHERE. AS THE GOM HAS NOT MADE A PUBLIC STATEMENT REGARDING THE TRIALS AS YET, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT WILL BE FORTHCOMING. EMBASSY WILL REPORT ANY STATEMENT ASAP.

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3. INTERNATIONAL WIRE SERVICE REPORTS FORMED THE BASIS FOR MOST OF THE MEXICAN MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE TRIALS AND OF THE INTERNATIONAL REACTION WHICH FOLLOWED THE SENTENCING. A NUMBER OF THE MAJOR MEXICAN PAPERS HAVE EDITORIALY CRITICIZED THE TRIALS AND OTHER SOVIET ACTIONS AGAINST THE DISSIDENTS AND HAVE CALLED FOR A REDUCTION IN THE SENTENCES OF GINZBURG, SHCHRANSKY, AND PYATKUS, AS

WELL AS FOR THE LIFTING OF THE DEATH SENTENCE FOR FILITOV.
MUCH OF THE COMMENTARY OF THE TRIALS IS BROACHED IN A
LARGER DISCUSSION OF THE DETERIORATION OF THE US/USSR RELATIONS
AND THE DANGER THAT THIS DETERIORATION HAS FOR WORLD PEACE.

4. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE MEXICAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCM),
NONE OF THE MEXICAN POLITICAL PARTIES HAVE COMMENTED ON
THE TRIALS. THROUGH A PRESS STATEMENT, THE PCM HAS CALLED
THE DEATH SENTENCE OF FILATOV A "POLITICAL ERROR" AND HAS
ASKED THE USSR TO REVISE THE SENTENCES OF THE DISSIDENTS.
LUCEY

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Message Attributes

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